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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable WILLIAM M. COWAN, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's opening prayer will be offered by Rev. John Edgerton, Old South Church, Boston, MA.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Along with the heartbroken of Boston, let us pray.

O God, remember this assembly, which you acquired long ago. Have regard for Your covenant, for the dark places of the land are full of the haunts of violence. Your foes have roared; they have roared within Your holy place; they set up their emblems there. They said to themselves: We will utterly subdue them. But it is God who executes justice, putting down one and lifting up another. For in the hand of the Lord, there is a cup with foaming wine, well mixed. God will pour a draught from it, and the wicked of the Earth shall drain it to the dregs.

Lord, You were favorable to Your land. Restore us again, O God of our salvation. Will You not revive us again, so that Your people may rejoice in You? Let me hear what the Lord will speak. Peace. God speaks peace to the people, to the faithful, to those who turn to the Lord in their hearts. Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet. Righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. It is You who have said so, O God.

Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable WILLIAM M. COWAN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 25, 2013.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable WILLIAM M. COWAN, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. COWAN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 10:30 this morning. The majority will control the first half, the Republicans the final half. At 10:30 the Senate will recess for an hour to allow for a Senators-only briefing. When the Senate reconvenes, we will resume consideration of the Marketplace Fairness Act. Yesterday I filed cloture on this legislation. As a result the filing deadline for all first-degree amendments is 1 p.m. today. Unless an agreement is reached, Senators should expect a cloture vote on Friday morning.

That was a wonderful prayer. I appreciated it very much.

I would now yield to my friend, the senior Senator from Massachusetts.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Massachusetts.

WELCOMING THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, thank you.

Every April a large blue-and-gold banner flies above the entryway at Old South Church, with words from Isaiah: "May you run and not grow weary, walk and not faint." Old South Church sits on the finish line for the Boston Marathon, a distinguished and historical spot that has earned its name, "Church of the Finish Line."

Today I welcome Rev. John Edgerton of Old South Church, the Church of the Finish Line, and thank him for coming here to share his faith, resilience, and fortitude.

Less than 2 weeks ago, on the Sunday before the marathon, Old South Church welcomed athletes, friends, families, supporters, and marathon volunteers into the church for the annual premarathon "Blessing of the Athletes."

On Marathon Monday, just after 12 p.m., the bells of Old South Church rang in the men's winner of the Boston Marathon, Lelisa Desisa Benti, as he crossed the finish line.

Later that day two blasts from hidden bombs rocked the crowded final stretch on the Boston Marathon. One explosion occurred mere feet from the front of the church. In an instant, Old South Church, the marathon church, the Church of the Finish Line, joined the rest of Boston in helping, comforting, and praying.

The Old South Church was first gathered in 1669 by a group of colonists who wanted to create a more inclusive and welcoming congregation. Since then, it has played an integral role in Boston's history. Meetings that led to the Boston Tea Party were held at the church, and in the 19th century church members were active in the abolitionist movement.

Although Old South Church was closed for more than a week following the explosion, its ministry remained

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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open. This past Sunday I attended an interfaith service, jointly performed by Old South Church and other local religious institutions, at the corner of Boylston and Berkeley Streets, a few blocks from the site of the bombing. I stood with hundreds of worshipers from a variety of faiths in downtown Boston, praying, signing, remembering. This perseverance and dedication to faith and community is why Boston has not grown weary; it is why Boston has not fainted; it is why Boston is strong.

Reverend Edgerton, thank you for the blessing you brought to the Senate today. I join you in praying for our hometown and for our Nation as we face the challenges ahead. The qualities you and your church exemplify, the spirit of openness and inclusiveness, the power of healing and prayer, and the strength of community are what will bring Boston through these difficult times. I am honored that you joined us today.

I yield the floor.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 799

Mr. REID. Mr. President, S. 799 is at the desk and due for a second reading; is that right?

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). The Senator is correct.

The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 799) to provide for a sequester replacement.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to any further proceeds with respect to this bill at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now yield to the junior Senator from Massachusetts, Mr. COWAN.

WELCOMING THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. COWAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to rise this morning to join Senator WARREN in honoring our guest Chaplain from Boston, Rev. John Edgerton, and I thank him for his words this morning.

In the wake of the recent tragedies in Massachusetts, I am glad to welcome a representative of Boston's spiritual community to deliver our invocation today. Reverend Edgerton's church, the Old South Church, is located on Boylston Street, not more than 100 yards past the finish line of the great Boston Marathon.

Since the first marathon 117 years ago, the Old South Church has been known as the Church of the Finish Line. Every year, the Sunday before Patriots' Day, the Old South Church holds a service to bless those running the marathon the very next morning. The service this year included the

theme music from "Chariots of Fire" and the Olympics as well as a prayer for the athletes. Marathoners from around the Commonwealth, Nation, and world congregate at the Old South Church seeking community, faith, and strength for the upcoming race.

Last Monday explosions rocked the finish line at Boylston Street and brought chaos to the front door of the Old South Church. For over a week the church's doors remained closed, as did much of the neighborhood, as investigators scoured the block for evidence. But today, as we pray here for those lives lost and those still recovering, Old South Church will open its doors once again and pray for our city, our Commonwealth, and our citizens.

As we do in times of hardship and heartbreak, we rely on the guidance of community leaders such as Reverend Edgerton and take comfort in their words. It is through their guidance and wisdom that we find the strength to rebound from tragedy and to find hope to move forward.

In churches all across Massachusetts this week, from the Back Bay to Dorchester and from Medford to Stoneham, bells will toll in their steeples and worshippers of all faiths will gather to remember the lives of Officer Sean Collier, Lingzi Lu, Krystle Campbell, and Martin Richard, and to pray for the scores who were injured.

Again next year, we look forward to the Sunday before Marathon Monday when runners will again gather at the Old South Church to receive their blessings before the running of the 118th Boston Marathon. We will always remember, and we will recover. We are thankful to have leaders such as Reverend Edgerton to guide us as we do.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

HONORING THE VICTIMS OF THE BOSTON BOMBINGS

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 115, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 115) commending the heroism, courage, and sacrifice of Sean Collier, an officer in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Police Department, Martin Richard, an 8-year-old resident of Dorchester, Massachusetts, Krystle Campbell, a native of Medford, Massachusetts, Lu Lingzi, a student at Boston University, and all the victims who are recovering from injuries caused by the attacks in Boston, Massachusetts, including Richard Donohue, Jr., an officer in the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority Transit Police Department.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. COWAN. I am honored to join the senior Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in this resolution to honor those who were injured or

who lost their lives last week as a result of the attack on the Boston Marathon and during the manhunt to apprehend the suspects.

In this resolution the Senate commends the heroism, courage, and sacrifices of Sean Collier, an officer in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology police force, and Richard Donohue, Jr., an officer in the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority police force.

Officer Collier was a 26-year-old native of Wilmington, MA, and was on the force for just over a year in his dream job, a police officer. Before joining the ranks at MIT, Officer Collier served as a civilian employee with the Somerville Police Department, and likely because of his outstanding service at MIT he was going to be invited to return to Somerville in June of this year, this time as an officer.

On Thursday evening last, Officer Collier was murdered in the line of duty, allegedly by the men suspected in the Boston Marathon bombings of last week. MIT Police Chief John DiFave said the following about Officer Collier:

Sean was one of these guys who really looked at police work as a calling. He was born to be a police officer.

Officer Collier was compassionate and stood out for his ability to connect personally with the students and community he served. We will never forget his devotion to protecting the community of MIT and serving as a police officer. He will be sincerely missed. I honor the exemplary service of Officer Collier and I extend my deepest sympathies to his family.

Last week MBTA police officer Richard Donohue, Jr. was working to protect the public at the Boston Marathon, and early Friday morning he raced to assist Cambridge police as they pursued the suspect who shot an MIT officer in Watertown, MA. What Officer Donohue may not have known was that officer down at MIT was his friend and fellow police academy classmate Sean Collier.

In the ensuing gun battle, showing remarkable courage and disregard for his own safety, Officer Donohue endured a barrage of gunfire and explosives unleashed by these suspects, and he himself was seriously wounded. Officer Donohue is recovering from his wounds and remains in critical but stable condition. I wish to thank Officer Donohue for his service, and I wish him a speedy recovery. As he heals, our thoughts are with the entire Donohue family, especially his wife Kim and their young son, who are a constant presence at his hospital bedside.

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 115) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.